

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy (AMOS) Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund (SWJCF)

History and Purpose

The [Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund](#) (SWJCF) appropriation to the [Iowa Workforce Development](#) (IWD) began with FY 2014 and funds training for unemployed and underemployed central Iowans that need skills to advance to higher-paying jobs with full benefits. This Program, [Project Iowa](#), is intended to be coordinated by an organization like [A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy \(AMOS\)](#), a nonprofit community organization. As a condition of receiving funding, an entity must testify regarding the expenditure of the moneys upon the request of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Economic Development.

This is a workforce development initiative that seeks to move chronically underemployed and impoverished central Iowa residents through intensive skills training to a career track, living wage job with benefits. The cornerstone to this approach is combining relevant technical training (developed and taught by industry leaders) and employment skills training through classes taught concurrently.

The Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund was created during the 2013 Legislative Session with the enactment of [HF 604](#) (Education Appropriations Act). The Fund receives \$66,000,000 annually from state gambling revenues as specified in Iowa Code section [8.57\(1\)\(f\)\(1\)\(c\)](#).

While the first appropriation was for FY 2014 and was made in [HF 604](#) (Education Appropriations Act), section 30(5), the appropriation has been made from the Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund in the Economic Development Appropriations Act after the first year, as of FY 2016. The funding does not revert until the close of the following fiscal year.

A contract was signed between the IWD and Project IOWA/AMOS in December 2013. Additionally, Project IOWA/AMOS received \$100,000 from Des Moines Area Community College under the Pathways for Career and Employment Program that was also funded through the SWJCF, bringing total funding from the SWJCF to \$200,000 in FY 2014. The Act appropriating the funding requires a request for proposals to be issued no later than September 1 each year.

Funding Sources

In addition to the SWJCF appropriation, the Program operates with various levels of support from private contributions and other miscellaneous sources of income.

Related Code and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [84A](#)

Revised August 30, 2016

More Information

Iowa Workforce Development: <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/>

Iowa General Assembly: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

LSA Staff Contact: Ron Robinson (515-281-6256) ron.robinson@legis.iowa.gov